

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for managing storage space in a storage medium of digital terminal equipment for data storage according to the prioritized pixel transmission method, wherein the data consists of an array of individual image points (pixels), wherein each pixel has a pixel value that describes the color or brightness information of the pixel, wherein a priority value for each pixel of the array is determined by calculating a pixel difference value based on the given pixel value of the pixel in relation to the pixel values of a previously selected group of neighboring pixels, the pixels that are used for calculating the priority value are grouped into a pixel group, and pixel groups of the image array are sorted based on their priority value, wherein multiple data with pixel groups sorted by priority (P1, P2, ..., Pn) are saved to the storage medium, wherein the method comprises the following steps:

- a. definition of a lower priority threshold value (Pu) and an upper priority threshold value (Po), wherein the

priority threshold values indirectly indicate how much information content of a file is stored on the storage medium,

- b. storage of files in the form of their pixel groups with the highest priority (P1) down to a priority corresponding to the selected lower priority threshold value (Pu) until the available storage space of the storage medium has been filled,
- c. increasing of the lower priority threshold value (Pu) by one priority level;
- d. deletion of pixel groups with a lower priority than that of the current priority threshold value (Pu) on the storage medium as soon as additional storage space is needed on the storage medium;
- e. use of the freed storage space in the storage medium for storing further data.

2. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that it is continued, in dependence upon the required storage space, from method step b) until the upper priority threshold (Po) is reached.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterized in that the

priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are adjustable by the user of the terminal equipment.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterized in that the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are permanently preset by the manufacturer of the terminal equipment.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 through 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that it is applied only to certain files selected by the user of the terminal equipment.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 through 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the storage medium comprises multiple partial storage areas, wherein for each partial storage area individual priority threshold values are definable.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 through 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the data is subdividable into multiple quality classes, wherein for each quality class individual priority threshold values are definable.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, characterized in that the pixel groups are formed from digitized scanning values of an audio signal.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 through 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that the files contain image data, video data or audio data.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in ~~any of claims 1 through 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that certain image/data areas, such as faces or texts contained in the image can be changed by the user in their prioritization even subsequently.

11. (New) A method as set forth in claim 2, characterized in that the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are adjustable by the user of the terminal equipment.

12. (New) A method as set forth in claim 11, characterized in that it is applied only to certain files selected by the user of the terminal equipment.

13. (New) A method as set forth in claim 12, characterized in that the storage medium comprises multiple partial storage areas, wherein for each partial storage area individual priority threshold values are definable.

14. (New) A method as set forth in claim 13, characterized in that the data is subdividable into multiple quality classes, wherein for each quality class individual priority threshold values are definable.

15. (New) A method as set forth in claim 14, characterized in that the pixel groups are formed from digitized scanning values of an audio signal.

16. (New) A method as set forth in claim 15, characterized in that the files contain image data, video data or audio data.

17. (New) A method as set forth in claim 16, characterized in that certain image/data areas, such as faces or texts contained in the image can be changed by the user in their prioritization even subsequently.

18. (New) A method as set forth in claim 2, characterized in that the priority threshold values (Po, Pu) are permanently preset by the manufacturer of the terminal equipment.

19. (New) A method as set forth in claim 18, characterized in that it is applied only to certain files selected by the user of the terminal equipment.

20. (New) A method as set forth in claim 19, characterized in that the storage medium comprises multiple partial storage areas, wherein for each partial storage area individual priority threshold values are definable.